

Knoxville Whig and Chronicle.

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KNOXVILLE, TENN.: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1875.

WHOLE NO. 1872

TENNESSEE LEGISLATURE.

Special to Knoxville Chronicle.

NASHVILLE, March 16, 1875.

SENATE.

A resolution directing the Comptroller to refund to John Overton, Gen. N. B. Forrest and others eleven thousand dollars owing by them to Northern creditors at the beginning of the late war, and paid into the State Treasury in obedience to an act of the Legislature, was rejected.

Senate bill to tax Railroads passed on its third reading.

Senate resolution to adjourn sine die next Wednesday was adopted.

House bill appropriating \$30,000 for the benefit of the State School for the Blind, passed third reading.

House bill fixing rate of taxation at twenty-five cents on the hundred dollars, was rejected.

Giers and Roubh presented a protest against the law forbidding the sale of wine and beer on the Sabbath day.

The committee appointed to investigate charges against the Shelby county delegation, will offer to-morrow a resolution denouncing the editor of the New Orleans Times, for having failed to respond to their telegram.

NASHVILLE, March 17, 1875.

SENATE.

A report was presented relative to the Knoxville and Charleston Railroad, to the effect that the road had been purchased by the State at a cost of \$71,000 and leased to certain parties for \$1,000 a year, the committee being informed that it could be leased to other parties for more money.

Senate bill to protect the citizens of the State against the unjust discrimination on the part of railroads as to the matter of freights, &c., passed third reading.

The committee appointed to investigate charges against the last Legislature reported that after thorough examination they had found there was no truth in the charge, but regret they were unable to secure the attendance of John F. Hume, as a witness. The report was withdrawn afterwards and another will be presented to-morrow.

HOUSE.

House Assessment bill was adopted in lieu of the Senate bill, and passed on its third reading.

House bill to repeal the eleventh Section of the funding act was so amended as to repeal the entire act, and then passed on third reading.

NASHVILLE, March 18, 1875.

SENATE.

Senator Logan again presented the report of the joint committee to investigate the conduct of certain members of the last Legislature, which he withdrew yesterday. A minority report was presented, signed by Mr. Peters, of Shelby; Mr. Taylor, of Carter; Judge East, of Davidson, and Mr. Cole, of Henry, to the effect that the testimony taken by the committee involves certain members of the last Legislature in very grave suspicions. The testimony was submitted with the report.

House bill providing that official salaries derived from fees shall not exceed \$3,000 per annum, was rejected.

House bill providing a tax on dogs passed on its third reading, and with the signature of the Governor will become a law.

House bill repealing the law to erect Asylums for the Insane in East and West Tennessee, and suspend work thereon at once, where it has been commenced, passed on its second reading after a lengthy debate.

HOUSE.

House bill to issue 10,000 treasury warrants, and House bill conveying the State's interest in the Knoxville and Charleston Railroad to Knox and Blount counties were tabled.

NASHVILLE, March 19, 1875.

SENATE.

Mr. Haynes withdrew his bill providing for holding a Constitutional Convention. Senator Bagland's Treasury Warrant Bill, upon which so much time has been spent, was taken up and rejected.

Senate bill allowing the Second Chancery Court and the Second Circuit Court of Shelby county one year to close up their business was rejected.

Senator Polk introduced a bill providing for the sale of all the hermitage property but fifty acres and the expenditure of \$25,000 in the erection of an equestrian statue of Andrew Jackson on Capitol Hill. Rejected.

House bill to re-lease the penitentiary, was rejected on third reading, and a motion to reconsider entered.

The Memphis Charter bill passed on its third reading.

House bill extending the North Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky Railroad, passed on its third reading.

Senate resolution to adjourn on the 24th inst., was concurred in.

NASHVILLE, March 20, 1875.

SENATE.

House bill abolishing Quorum Courts, passed on its third reading.

Another ineffectual attempt was made to pass Senator Logan's seven per cent. interest bill.

A number of House bills passed the Senate on third reading.

Senate adjourned at noon to meet on Monday.

HOUSE.
Senate resolution directing the Comptroller to settle with contractors for work done on the East Tennessee Insane Asylum was concurred in.

House resolution declaring the State not bound for Tennessee bonds fraudulently issued, was adopted.

Senate resolution to allow the State Medical Society to hold a meeting in the State Capitol, concurred in.

Senate bill to reduce the number of challenges of Jurors passed on its third reading.

A resolution directing the Governor and Attorney General to take steps to secure the State's interest in the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad, was adopted.

Senate bill to tax railroads one-half of one per cent. on gross earnings for the next ten years, passed on its third reading.

NASHVILLE, March 22, 1875.

SENATE.

Senate resolution declaring against carrying the Turbett case, recently decided in the Supreme Court, of Tennessee, to the Supreme Court of the United States, being returned from the House amended, considered a motion of the Senate was indefinitely postponed.

House bill to suspend work on the East and West Tennessee Insane Asylums and to sell property already purchased, passed third reading.

[A telegram received yesterday from Senator Turley by Mr. Boyd says this was amended so as to save the Asylum property purchased near this city, which information seems to be in conflict with that given by our correspondent.—Eds. CHRONICLE.]

House bill to establish a Bureau of Immigration passed on its third reading.

House Amendment Bill was adopted in lieu of the Senate bill.

HOUSE.

Senate bill to exempt property of unmarried women from sale on account of the debts of their husbands' debts, passed on its third reading.

Senate resolution proposing several amendments to the Constitution to be acted upon by the next Legislature concurred in.

WASHINGTON.

Andrew Johnson Speaks on Louisiana Affairs.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The loss of property by the Susquehanna flood is estimated at \$1,500,000.

In the Senate the consideration of unfinished business, being a resolution approving of the action of the President in regard to Louisiana, was resumed and ex-President Johnson began to speak at ten minutes past twelve o'clock.

Every seat in the Senate was occupied, and those standing were crowded into the galleries to hear Andrew Johnson. After 11 o'clock, ingress was impossible. The Senate floor, proper, was crowded with privileged outsiders. Johnson was dressed in his usual style of elegant neatness. He has a full suit of gray hair. His voice was first low, then it gradually swelled, until it rang through the corridors. He spoke with out notes. He was loudly applauded when he said: "If Grant is elected a third time, then good bye to the Republic." He spoke two hours receiving applause from the galleries and congratulations from his friends on the floor.

Mr. Johnson spoke at length of traditions of the Republic. Mr. Clark introduced a resolution denouncing Jackson for removing deposits. It was then decided that the Senate has no right to pass upon the action of the President, unless sitting as a Court of impeachment. He alluded to the troubles in Tennessee in 1866, when resignation defeated a quorum in the Legislature. Gen. Johnson was instructed to abstain from any interference. This dispatch was written by the Secretary of War, in the presence of the President. He declared it was not his intention to give utterance to a single personal matter, but to speak of public acts.

He then referred to General Sheridan from the command of the Fifth Military District, in 1867. It was in consequence of a wall which came up from the people of that region. Why was it Sheridan was selected to send back to those people, who before condemned him and prayed for his removal? He (Johnson) knew the determination of the people of the South. Their great object was to be restored to the Union.

Referring to the action of Grant toward Louisiana, he would say to this Emperor what Cato said to the ambassador of Caesar; let him disband his legions and restore the commonwealth to liberty; let him do that, and he (Johnson), as humble as he was, would mount the rostrum and strive to have an indignant people forgive him for his violation of law.

Commenting with to-morrow, the Republicans have determined to sit Grant, Kellogg and Louisiana out.

Postmaster Jewell directs that the new law regarding transient newspapers go into effect immediately, instead of the first of April.

The Department of the Interior will send a geologist to the Black Hills country to investigate the reports of its alleged great mineral wealth. In the meantime the War Department will be asked to protect the Sioux in their treaty rights and allow no white persons to enter that country. Rapid steps are in progress towards entering negotiations with the Sioux for the extinguishment of their title.

The Supreme Court has decided, in the case of Blake vs. The First National Bank of the City of New York, by reversing the decision of the Circuit Court of New York, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, and holding that the incomes of banks and railroad companies and other corporations for the last five months of the year 1874, were subject to an internal revenue tax of two and a half per cent. This decision secures the payment of about three million dollars.

THE POPE.

He Issues An Address to the Catholic World.

ROME, March 16.—The Pope said: Re-considering, in part, our care in those days to cross your noble order of distinguished men, and to assist in the protection of the universal church, and having determined to discharge this duty with all the solemnity and dignity of the Church demands, but the times are opposed to our intention. The oppression which we suffer is such that we have not even the freedom of bewailing the afflictions of the Church. No wonder that those differing from the Church by hereditary errors hate the Church and strive to attain this end.

Unfortunately, in Italy, where the Supreme Cathedral of Truth was placed by divine dispensation, the children of the faith have become enemies of the Church, and plot for its destruction, grieving our hearts. Hence have come the deplorable injuries to our liberties, the passions, and the Ministers of the Church, which we witness, powerless to resist; hence have come the greatest evils to the souls of men and to human society—the corruption of youth, which will propagate the existing evils to future generations. The educational institutions have been withdrawn from the watchfulness of the Church; and in youth, which should be the seed time of virtues, vices are rooted in schools subject to the civil power. There is education without faith, without religion. According to a baleful worldly wisdom, the education of the Priesthood even is hampered by arbitrary rule, so that it is difficult to regulate the course of their studies.

The army conscription laws take effect in the ranks of the clergy. Inferior clerics are encouraged contumaciously to resist their bishops, the publication of our diocesan laws is prohibited by the civil power, penal laws are enacted against publishing acts of the Episcopate; the voice of the Supreme Master, the teacher of truth, is silenced, and the rights of the faithful people are violated. Let those who subject the Church to slavery bear in mind that they invoke upon themselves the divine wrath of a harder master and heavier tyranny.

Lately in a foreign country writings were divulged, distorting the Vatican decrees. The object was to effect the violation of the liberty of our Senate in the selection of our successors, by threats of civil interference. These acts part of civil interference, on ecclesiastical competence, but the merciful God ruling the Church providentially ordained the firm and admirable Bishops of the German Empire, who refuted in their noble declaration these erroneous doctrines. We give the fullest praise before the Catholic world to the said Bishops. We approve their declarations and their protest as being worthy of the virtue, dignity and religion of the Bishops. We confirm them in their apostolic authority, praying the Divine clemency to dissipate the designs of our enemies, and to end these evil days.

Remembering that no wisdom or prudence can prevail against the Lord, let us offer sacrifice in humility and fervent prayer. Our God is just and merciful; severe against those who persist in their evil ways, but merciful to those who are converted to Him. Therefore let us turn our hearts in contrition to Him, praying for consolation and deliverance. He is powerful to defend us from our enemies, preparing us for a hereafter of eternal joys. Gregory the Great says, in these tribulations a greater strength, greater co-operation, greater valor in battle are required of the leaders.

We are resolved, venerable brethren, to add to the Senate of the holy Roman Church for the glory of God and the utility of the Church, six more distinguished men, whose names are known to you, who have shown themselves worthy of the high honor or by the discharge of the Episcopal functions with real fortitude, prudence and learning, as by bearing cruel persecutions with courage and constancy. We intend to create five other Cardinals. If, in the dispensation of God, this Holy See should become vacant before their names are divulged, they will be declared in a codicil attached to our will. We decree, by Apostolic authority, that they may have the right of an active or passive participation in the act of choosing our successor. The five Cardinals reserved in *Petto* are as follows: Monsignor Paris, Vitelleschi, Randi, Nino Simioni and Antiel Matteri.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

HOME.

HAMBURG, March 16.—The Senate passed a repeal of the local option law, but a veto passed a stringent license law, which goes to the House.

NEW YORK, March 16.—A hundred ladies were at the seventh annual dinner of Sorority Mrs. J. C. Crawley presided.

A calamity in Mexico, letter of the 20th ult. contains an account of an earthquake of more than usual force, which on the 11th of February, shook a large portion of Northern Mexico. The little town of San Cristobal was almost entirely destroyed, and seventy dead bodies were taken from the ruins. The center of this disturbance appears to have been the volcano of Coleruco. The earthquake occurred at night, and the terror of the people was increased by the darkness.

BALTIMORE, March 17.—At a called meeting of the ruling elders of the Presbyterian Churches of this city, held last evening to consider the overture sent down from the last General Assembly for the adoption of the Presbyterian Church in regard to a change in the constitution of ruling elders for a limited time of not less than three years, or what is known as "rotary eldership," the following resolutions were, after an interesting discussion, unanimously adopted: That we disapprove the Assembly's overture, and so far as our voices can be heard in the response of the Presbytery to the same, we return an emphatic negative.

COLUMBIA, Pa., March 18.—The ice in the Susquehanna river at this point commenced running at 2:30 this evening, and is still running past in one continuous mass. At this hour, 8 p. m., it carried away the winding bridge of the Tidewater Canal Company at Wrightsville and moved one of the piers of the Columbia bridge twenty-eight inches out of its place, rendering the bridge impassable for the passage of trains over it. The ice and water has done considerable damage to the Pennsylv-

ania RR, tracks west of here piling ice upon the tracks and rendering the passage of trains impossible. It also swept down a great many telegraph poles, cutting off telegraphic communication with the points between Columbia and Harrisburg.

The telegraph wires were broken by the displacement of the span of the bridge.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., March 18.—The loss of four bridges and damage to property by the ice that reaches more than a half million dollars. The ice is again gorged at Ransom, three miles above this place, to the height of twenty feet and extending up the river for about five miles. The Lehigh Valley RR track is entirely covered with ice, six feet in height, in the narrow ways north of here, and they have a gang of workmen digging through and trying to clear the track. It is impossible to say how soon they can run through. No trains have been able to reach here yet either way. A great many mines in this locality have stopped work on account of having no route left by which to ship their coal. Great anxiety exists here in regard to the weather. Should it become warm enough to move the gorge it will cause even more destruction than Tuesday's flood.

HARRISBURG, March 18.—The ice is passing quietly, and no damage is apprehended in this country.

CHICAGO, March 18.—The lively stable of Miles Parker and the grocery of Mrs. Simmons are burned. Twenty-two horses and ten buggies were consumed.

FALL RIVER, March 18.—All the strikers have returned to work.

RALPHON, N. C., March 18.—The House of Representatives, to-day, passed the Senate bill calling a Constitutional Convention to be held on the 6th of September, and the bill is now a law; vote stood, 81 to 31.

RICHMOND, Va., March 18.—The personal recollections of Mr. J. A. Cowardin, of the *Dispatch*, and Mr. A. Fulkerson, of the House of Delegates, resulted last evening in the arrest of the latter and Mr. Jas. P. Cowardin, son of the senior Mr. Cowardin, on the charge of being about to engage in a duel or otherwise break the peace. They were both before the Police Justice this morning, when, after investigation, they were placed under bonds in one thousand dollars each to keep the peace. The correspondence which passed between the parties eventually on the part of Mr. Cowardin, Jr., went to business, while Mr. Fulkerson declined to recognize him in the matter unless Mr. Cowardin, Sr., would cease unwillingness to reason of inability or incapacity to seek redress.

RALPHON, March 22.—A terrible wind prevailed in this section on Saturday. Many houses were prostrated and several persons killed and many hurt. Newspapers country suffered most.

A locomotive boiler on the North Carolina road exploded. Mr. Yumble, of Richmond, was killed, and the engineer and fireman, and two others, were badly scalded.

EAST JAFFRIES, N. H., March 22.—The Granite State Hotel, stables and nine horses, with the bank house, were burned. Loss, \$75,000.

ST. LOUIS, March 22.—The tobacco manufacturers protest against the tax commencing midnight, March 24. The revenue officers sold stamps all day on the 24. The decision is retroactive and disturbs trade.

VINELAND, March 22.—Dr. Gross says Carruth is better. He was removed from the composing room to his office without bad results.

NEW YORK, March 22.—Reports from the northern part of the State place the thermometer at 20 degrees below zero.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., March 21.—Large and well attended meetings of the Mechanics and Workmen's Benevolent Association have been held in this region to-day, by the employees of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company, comprising engineers, firemen, conductors, and road hands. Two thousand men who have been asked to resign their membership in the Association, have resolved to stand to the Union to a man and to relinquish employment of the Company. To-day is the last they will remain in their employment. A large number of men have been suspended in consequence. Advice received from Mahoney Place, St. Clair, Schuylkill, Haven and other points, indicates a bitter feeling against the Company. Many new members have been installed.

FOREIGN.

MADRID, March 22.—A projected accommodation with the Carlists failed, only eight chiefs following Cabrera in giving adhesion to Alfonso.

SENIOR Castella resigned the Professorship of the University in consequence of the re-establishment in schools as his allies of certain text books.

LONDON, March 22.—The Fiji Islanders are dying from measles.

COUNT De Jarnac, the French ambassador here, is dangerously ill with pneumonia.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

Portions of Georgia were visited on Saturday by a destructive storm. Many lives were lost, and much property destroyed. Only one house was left standing in Carmack. Augusta escaped.

Two colored men were drowned at Savannah on Saturday by the capsizing of a boat in Savannah river.

The Chancery Court Clerks office at Vicksburg was robbed of records on last Saturday.

One hundred and fifty Indians were baptized as a Mormon church at Salt Lake City last week.

Carruth, the Vineland, New Jersey, editor, who was shot last week, was still living Sunday.

St. Louis has been indicted for libeling McFarland. The fact that both parties are Washington telegraph correspondents gives the case a respectable scent.

House Robbed.

Some unknown person, or persons, entered the dwelling house of Dr. Rodgers, last Sunday night, while himself and family were in Blount county, and took therefrom his bed-clothing, wearing apparel, broken open trunks, boxes, and scattered the Doctor's medicines all over the floor. What was of no value to the thieves they utterly demolished everything in the house. The robbers will probably be found in due course of time.—Sweetwater Enterprise.

LETTER FROM JACKSBORO.

A Prominent Citizen Dead—(treaty four—Scrap &c.) JACKSBORO, March 22, 1875.

To the Editors of the Chronicle:

About noon on the 19th inst., Col. Dick Wheeler, (as he is familiarly known) who during the past winter, was quite feeble, and of late had been suffering from dropsy, died. He was born in or near Knoxville, in 1801, and in April would have been seventy-four years of age. His long life has been a busy and useful one. In spite of many reverses, he accumulated a large estate worth \$80,000, and possibly more. He served several terms as Representative in the Lower House of the State Legislature. During the rebellion he was a prominent Union man. There is not much to be said of whose death will cause more general sorrow. His plain substantial brick residence just east of Careyville, surrounded by a grove of cedars, interspersed with shrubbery and forest trees, and his splendid farm, was commented on by every traveler. Through the most inaccessible was a tall, dignified, grey-haired old patriarch, who could be seen every pleasant day during the past two years reclining in the shade of a spreading cedar, in his yard so neatly contained with his life's work. No friend ever called but what he reluctantly took leave of the old man, and even the stranger was greeted with such true hospitality that he always felt at home. On a hillside near his residence is the family cemetery, and there he was laid to rest yesterday, in the presence of his family and friends. All will miss him, but none so much as the poor, who always found a friend in him.

CIRCUIT COURT.

On last Monday court convened, His Honor D. K. Young on the bench. The docket was quite full. Most of the civil cases were continued. The criminal docket was pretty well cleaned up. The escape of three prisoners mentioned in a previous letter, lessened the work of Gen. W. B. Cullom, who is not at all in good health, but in fact was quite feeble during the entire session of the law and his effective system of prosecuting is having a salutary effect all over the district. The people should be proud of the old "wheel horse," whose life is part of the State. A more distinguished and big gentleman of the old school is rarely found in his profession.

The Grand Jury was very efficient, and found some fifty-four indictments. Most of them were against parties for selling liquor to minors, and on Sunday.

SCRAP.

There was an exciting municipal contest in the village on Saturday over the election of aldermen. The candidates were T. Isley, Sam. Baird, and W. C. Hall, which resulted in the election of Isley and Baird.

The citizens are enlarging and beautifying their cemetery, which will, when completed, be rather a pleasant place to lie down in and await "Gabriel's trumpet."

The farmers in this section are all behind with their plowing and spring work, owing to the wet season, and there is a good deal of unholy complaining about the way the weather is managed.

THE DOG LAW.

Will affliction never cease? Is there no sympathy for the oppressed and humiliated people of the State. The Civil Rights Bill, the banning of the Republican party, was of itself not sufficient to goad beyond the endurance of life the faithful, but it remained for the Democratic Legislature to furnish the straw that broke the camel's back, in the shape of the dog law. The passage of the bill, no doubt, was regarded by the financial minds of that body as all that was necessary to restore the credit of the State. They failed to consider what an unequal system of taxation the bill created, for there is a large class of industrious farmers, throughout the State, who never paid any tax before, that will have to bear the burden of taxation, on account of their homesteads and crops, or sacrifice them to the law. Should they be compelled to destroy their dogs they will be bereft of paying even their poll tax in such a manner. In the name of humanity, what is to be done? The Legislature must either repeal the law making fox scalp the current or the Governor veto the dog law.

MODIC.

[Special Dispatch to the Cincinnati Commercial.] A Flood Once Caused by a Crop of Pumpkins.

A correspondent of the New York Tribune in describing the floods that have visited Port Jervis, New York, says: In the latter part of 1845 occurred what is known as the "pumpkin flood," on account of the immense quantity of pumpkins which were swept out of the corn fields and horse down the river until, five or six miles below Port Jervis, in a narrow part of the river, they helped to form a sort of dam, behind which stones, gravel and debris became piled up, forming a riffler never since known under the name of "Punkies," or "Pumpkin Rift." Many other floods have occurred along the Delaware, but there has been one of such a phenomenal character as that which now threatens to burst upon this village, unless the elements are unusually propitious.

The *Fristal Courier* says: Capt. James L. Oney, of the Virginia and Tennessee railroad, who was so badly hurt some six weeks since, near Thaxton's, by falling from a car of the train of which he was conductor, died of his injuries on Monday night last. Mayor J. M. Barker has received the contract to carry the mail from Bristol to Estelville. Daily service (Sunday's excepted) to commence on the 1st of July. To accommodate persons desiring to get to Blountville and Estelville, and back, it is likely Mr. Barker will place coaches on the route.

THE GREAT FLOOD AT PORT JERVIS

The Town Inundated and Bridges Swept Away.

The Inhabitants Hastily Retreat to Higher Ground.

[Special Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune.]

PORT JERVIS, N. Y., March 17.—The first information of the wreck of the railroad bridge, which occurred at 7:40 A. M., was brought to the village by Mr. Thomas, who, perceiving the great danger to the town, ran down with his engine warning the people along the river to flee to higher ground. About 8 o'clock, when the water in King street was running like a roadway six feet deep, the engine came rushing down the track keeping up a continuous and deafening screaming with its whistle, while several men stood on the tender waving their hands frantically and shouting to everybody to clear the track, for the flood was coming. Several thousand persons were standing on the railroad track between the depot and the Delaware House, and when this warning was received, bells were rung, whistles blown, and a scene of wild confusion ensued. Everybody rushed for the higher ground up Pike street. Several ladies fainted, and had to be carried away in an express wagon. At the same time two or three wagons, which had gone up the valley to ward the people when danger appeared, came rattling down the track, the drivers urging their horses into a gallop, and crying that the water was running close behind them.

At 8 o'clock the water began to run down the railroad track and up into Pike street, at a depth of two feet, surrounding the Delaware House and railway depot, and filling all the cellars in the vicinity. This inundation was caused by the river's having broken over its banks near the residence of Wade Buckley, above Germantown, and about a mile above the railroad depot. Great blocks of ice were swept along by it, and so rapid was the rise that the people in Germantown, which includes about 100 small houses, had hardly time to escape to terraces above the railway, and those who tarried to secure some of their household effects had to wade through water up to their knees. In a few moments many of the houses were flooded up to the window sills, and several were carried from their foundations and shattered by the ice. Orders were given to remove all the engines in the railway round-house and repair-shops, 30 or 40 in number, and they were fired up, and three or four started away down the track toward Carpenter's Point. About 8 o'clock King street, the lower end of Pike, Lumber, Thompson, Brown, First, Second, and Third streets, and the Railroad avenue, were all flooded with water from two to eight feet deep. The inundated portion occupied a triangle 3,650 feet long and 1,000 feet across the base, the river bounding one side and the railway the other. This space was occupied by about 400 buildings, in some of which the water had risen half way up to the second story, driving the inmates into the upper rooms for refuge. Out houses, fences, and sheds were torn from their foundations and floated down toward the river. The water still rose rapidly, and it seemed that nothing could save the town from utter destruction.

All this time the gorge remained firm, showing no signs of yielding to the pressure from above. It had been shored down against the suspension bridge and was piling higher and higher every minute. Mr. Chantre, Mayor Abbott and Superintendent Thomas had gone down opposite the lower end of the gorge and were watching intently to see if any way where the channel had been blasted through. About 8:30 a channel had opened almost up to the suspension bridge, and at 8:40 the gorge began to move, slowly at first, but gathering speed and momentum until it swept by the town at the rate of four miles an hour passing over all obstacles, and rounding the bend at Carpenter's Point with undiminished speed. Over upon cheerless farms from the thousands who were watching the spectacle, it being evident that the town was saved.

As soon as the gorge started the water in the streets began to fall, and in ten minutes it had fallen 18 inches. Within the next 15 minutes it rose nearly two feet higher in the river, and great blocks of ice began to be tossed upon and over the suspension bridge, to which all attention was now turned as it seemed to be doomed to destruction. The gorge was moving in a compact form, and great blocks of ice projecting above its surface came in contact with the bridge with terrific force, swaying it powerfully, until the three-inch cables seemed straining almost to breaking, the pine towers waved cracking to and fro, and the plank was ripped up like shingles. Still the stout cables did not break, and the towers remained erect, the heavy timbers that had been braced between the central towers were snapped into pieces. The matches, and yet the bridge did not go.

For 15 minutes it endured this severe pounding and thrusting to and fro, and it seemed that it would withstand all the efforts of the ice to break it, when suddenly, about 9 o'clock, moving majestically but swiftly, down upon it came an immense fragment of the broken iron railroad bridge, riding 20 feet above the surface, and 200 feet long. It struck the suspension bridge, broadside, on the Pennsylvania side of the middle pier. Over went the three lower towers with a crash, the great cables strained and snapped, and the iron monster moved steadily on down stream, bearing on its crest the white railing of the suspension bridge. Though the three towers on the dam side were all overturned, the three upper towers remained standing, and the upper cable was not broken, only the wire stays connecting it with the roadway having parted when the latter was swept away.